

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 225015

20

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-20

/111 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:PP

APPROVED BY EA/P:AHROSEN

----- 130794

R 142223Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM

CINCPAC HONOLUL HI

COGARD POLAD

UNCLAS STATE 225015

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 225015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 14, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. FIELD REPORTS SAY FANK ASSAULT TO RELIEVE GARRISON AT RR JUNCTION 14 MILES NW OF PP HIT BY COUNTERATTACK USING TEAR GAS. FANK PUSHES OUT OF MONASTERY, USED AS FIELD HQ AND AMMO DUMP, 7 MILES SOUTH OF PP ON ROUTE 2 (UPI, NYDN).

2. VIENTIANE NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT SOUVANNA PHOUMA INFORMALLY INVITES SOUPHANOUVONG FOR TALKS IN VIENTIANE OR LUANG PRABANG ON FORMATION OF COALITION GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL. OBSERVERS SAY ACCEPTANCE UNLIKELY PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE NEUTRALIZATION OF THE TWO CITIES CALLED FOR IN PEACE AGREEMENT (REUTER).

3. GVN MILITARY SOURCES CONFIRM VC CHARGE OF VNAF RAIDS ON THIEN NGON AIRFIELD NEAR KHMER BORDER, 75 MILES NW OF SAIGON (WP). VC SPOKESMAN ALLEGES HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY IN THIEN NGON RAIDS; ARVN SAYS STRIKES AIMED AT POL STOCKS MOVED FROM OLD BASES IN CAMBODIA, ADDS THAT BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT NOT YET COMPLETE. VC ACCUSES GVN OF "CONTINUING TO ESCALATE SABOTAGE OF C-F" (REUTER).

4. ARVN SPOKESMAN SAYS FLOODS IN WAKE OF TYPHOON SARAH RISE FURTHER IN CENTRAL COAST PROVINCES, WITH DEATH, DAMAGE AND REFUGEE TOLL RISING. SIDE EFFECT IS THAT FIGHTING IN AREA ALMOST STOPS (NYT; AP, CHITRIB; REUTER).

5. OFFICIAL SOURCES REPORT GVN LAUNCHING PROGRAM TO CONSERVE FUEL BY TAKING AWAY VEHICLES FROM ALL BUT TOP OFFICIALS, CHANGING OFFICE HOURS TO ELIMINATE LUNCHTIME TRAVELING, PREPARING GAS RATIONING PLANS (AP, NYDN) AND ORDERING REMOVAL OF AIRCONDITIONERS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 225015

FROM PRESS OFFICES AND MILITARY BRIEFING ROOM (WP). GVN NATIONAL BANK ANNOUNCES 8TH DEVALUATION IN 1974 AGAINST DOLLAR SO FAR THIS YEAR, IN MOVE TO HOLD DOWN INFLATION (REUTER).

6. AP REPORTS FROM SAIGON THAT HK MOVIE MAGAZINE STORY OF NEW FILM EVOKES ANGRY PROTEST FROM SVN MOVIE GROUP. HK FILM, "POISON GIRL," IS ABOUT A PARTICULARLY VIRULENT FORM OF VD CALLED "VIETNAM ROSE". ASSOCIATION SEES SLUR ON NATIONAL PRESTIGE AND HONOR, WANTS FILM PUBLICLY BURNED IN PRESENCE OF SVN CONSUL WITH WRITTEN APOLOGY SENT BY PRODUCER TO GVN (PHINQ).

CHINA

7. PRE-DEPARTURE REPORTS FOCUS ON SECRETARY'S FAREWELL BANQUET TOAST. HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT WOULD NOT BE IN COMMUNIQUE BUT IN SINO-US RELATIONSHIP "AND IN THE FUTURE WE HAVE CHARTED;" AND THAT US FRIENDSHIP FOR PRC WILL REMAIN CONSTANT REGARDLESS OF "WHAT HAPPENS" IN US OR "WHATEVER THE ADMINISTRATION" IN POWER. WP'S MARDER REPORTS THAT US DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY TOOK PAINS TO DENY TO REPORTERS THAT HIS "SWEEPING ASSURANCE" TO CHINESE REFERRED EITHER TO WATERGATE SCANDAL OR TO CHALLENGE TO PRES'. TENURE IN OFFICE; RATHER, THAT HAK WAS MERELY STATING THAT US MOVES TOWARD NORMALIZED RELATIONS REPRESENT DURABLE BIPARTISAN POLICY UNAFFECTED BY DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS. TO MARDER, HOWEVER, KISSINGER'S REMARKS "SPOKE FOR THEMSELVES", FOR IN PAST SECRETARY "HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED ALARM" ABOUT POTENTIAL INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS OF WATERGATE. MARDER SAYS CHINESE INTERESTED LESS IN WATERGATE ITSELF THAN IN ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON LONG-RANGE CONTINUITY OF SINO-US TIES; PRC OFFICIALS APPROACHED SOME NEWSMEN ACCOMPANYING HAK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT US POLITICAL INTERPLAY OVER WATERGATE AND

ITS POSSIBLE IMPACT ON FOREIGN POLICY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 225015

8. ALSO CITING SECRETARY'S AIDES' EXPLANATION OF TOAST, NYT'S GWERTZMAN CONCLUDES THAT, "IN ANY EVENT," REMARKS WERE "UNUSUAL FOR A SECRETARY OF STATE TO MAKE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY." NYDN'S CARTER NOTES OFFICIALS WITH KISSINGER SAYING SECRETARY KNEW, FROM TALKS WITH FULBRIGHT AND MANSFIELD, THAT DEMOCRATS BACK CHINA POLICY AND THAT THIS WAS MEANING OF TOAST. "BUT KISSINGER DID NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT US FOREIGN POLICY BEING BIPARTISAN DURING HIS FIVE-MI UTE TOAST," CARTER MAINTAINS.

9. MARDER, GWERTZMAN AND KEAT (SUN) SAW KISSINGER AT FINAL BANQUET INDIRECTLY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT FINAL COMMUNIQUE WOULD NOT ANNOUNCE ANY "SPECIFIC MOVES AHEAD" IN US-SINO RELATIONS. MISSING FROM HIS REMARKS WAS ANY REFERENCE TO HASTENING PACE TOWARD "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS; AND HE WAS "FAR MORE RESTRAINED" THAN AT START OF CHINA VISIT (CHITRIB'S STARR).

10. KEAT FOUND CHINESE IMPRESSED WITH SEVERAL FEATURES OF MAO-HAK MEETING. NOTING CHOU SAYING

IT WAS OF UNPRECEDENTED LENGTH AND THAT MAO SPOKE ENGLISH IN SENDING NIXON REGARDS, KEAT CONTENTS THAT "SUCH REMARKS ARE THE CHINESE WAY OF SENDING SIGNALS. THEY WERE PLAINLY TRYING TO CONVEY AN ATMOSPHERE OF CONTINUED PROGRESS" IN SINO-US RELATIONS. GWERTZMAN INSISTS "IT DOES NOT SEEM LIKELY" THAT PRES. WOULD AGREE TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH GRC; RATHER, US SEEKS GRADUAL EVOLUTION OF PRC-GRC CONTACTS THAT EVENTUALLY COULD LEAD TO RECONCILIATION.

11. BURNS(ORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL) HOLDS THAT EVEN WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC BREAKTHROUGH IN PEKING, SECRETARY "HAS EVERY REASON TO CELEBRATE" WAY VISIT WENT. "AT THE LEAST," CHINESE HAVE SHOWN THEY REMAIN FIRM IN SEARCH FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH US AND IN THEIR HIGH REGARD FOR HIM PERSONALLY. WITH OTHERS, BURNS NOTES OFFICIAL PRC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT MAO AND KISSINGER TALKED IN "FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE" -- UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 225015

TERMINOLOGY USUALLY RESERVED FOR VISITORS FROM NATIONS JUDGED QUITE FAVORABLY AMONG CHINA'S FRIENDS (CSM).

12. JOC'S LAWRENCE REPORTS WASHINGTON OFFICIALS SAYING EXPECTED SINO-US CLAIMS SETTLEMENT WILL EASE WAY FOR FURTHER COMMERCIAL DEALINGS, ESPECIALLY

IN BANKING AND TRANSPORT; THEY ADD, HOWEVER, THAT JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT, BARRING EX-IM CREDITS AND MFN TARIFFS TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WITH EMIGRATION CURBS, MAY BLOCK COMPLETE NORMALIZATION OF SINO-US BUSINESS RELATIONS. PEKING, PRESUMABLY AWARE OF ADMIN DILEMMA OVER AMENDMENT, IS REGARDED AS UNLIKELY TO RUSH INTO MAJOR TRADE PACT ON WHICH PRES. MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO DELIVER. NOTES PEKING HAS NOT YET INVITED US FLAG SHIPS OR AIRLINES TO CHINA, AND CHINESE VESSELS DO NOT VISIT US PORTS, "PERHAPS AGAIN BECAUSE OF FEAR THAT THE VESSELS MIGHT BE 'ATTACHED.'" MEANWHILE, US-CHINA TRADE HAS RISEN SHARPLY, DESPITE ABSENCE OF EX-IM CREDITS OR MFN DUTIES.

13. SOVIET MAGAZINE "NEW TIMES" ACCUSES PRC OF HELPING FORCE MOSCOW INTO CONFRONTATION WITH US OVER ME LAST MONTH BY REFUSING TO BACK UN C-F EFFORTS (NYT'S SMITH). SUN'S PARKS SAYS MOSCOW'S CHARGES REPRESENT SOME OF SOVIET'S STRONGEST IN WAR-OF-WORDS WITH PEKING.

14. NYT'S LELYVELD, IN HK, REPORTS CONCERN THERE OVER RECORD NUMBER OF PRC IMMIGRANTS ARRIVING AT

BORDER WITH LEGAL EXIT PERMITS. IN LAST 2 WEEKS,
FLOW HAS BEEN RUNNING AT ABOUT 440 DAILY; RECORD
SET NOV. 4 WHEN 622 CHINESE CROSSED INTO HK. BRITISH
THOUGHT THEY HAD TACIT UNDERSTANDING WITH PRC THAT
IMMIGRANTS WOULD BE HELD TO 50 DAILY. HOPE IS
THAT STEADY INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR IS RESULT OF
PRC OVERSIGHT, RATHER THAN DELIBERATE DECISION
TO PUT PRESSURE ON HK. IMPRESSION IMMIGRANTS MAKE
IS OF DESPERATE FLIGHT, BUT THEY ARE EXTREMELY
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 225015

RELUCTANT TO BE DRAWN INTO DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE
POLITICAL MOTIVES OR DENUNCIATION OF SOCIETY THEY
LEFT BEHIND. MOST IMMIGRANTS TO HK IN PAST HAVE
BEEN FROM KWANGTUNG AND SPEAK CANTONESE; BUT NOW
ROUGHLY ONE-FOURTH OF TOTAL ARE OVERSEAS CHINESE
WHO FOUND THEMSELVES MISFITS IN PRC -- BUT WHO,
ALSO, HAVE SLIGHT CHANCE OF RE-ADMISSION TO COUNTRIES
OF ORIGIN.

JAPAN

15. US JAPAN TRADE COUNCIL REPORTS JAPANESE INTERNATIONAL
PAYMENTS DEFICIT MAY BE 10 BILLION DOLLARS THIS
YEAR- COUNCIL SAYS JAPANESE ECONOMISTS WORRY THAT
CONTINUED DEFICITS "MAY BE TOO MUCH OF GOOD THING"

(CHITRIB).

16. CHI

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE225015
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/P:STAFF:PP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejwb.tel
Line Count: 248
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <22-Aug-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOVEMBER 14, 1973 EA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: SAIGON INFO BANGKOK
CANBERRA
JAKARTA
KUALA LUMPUR
MANILA
MOSCOW
PHNOM PENH

RANGOON
SEOUL
SINGAPORE
TAIPEI
TOKYO
VIENTIANE
WELLINGTON
BIEN HOA
CAN THO
DANANG
HONG KONG
NHA TRANG
JEC PARIS
PEKING
USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM
CINCPAC HONOLUL HI
COGARD POLAD

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005